

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Please cancel claims 4 and 5 and amend claims 1-2 and 6-11, as follows:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method for processing sounds from a stringed instrument having strings, a vibration plate used to radiate vibration of each string as a sound wave, and a finger board used to adjust a pitch of each string, **comprising:**

fixing a sensor or a vibration transmitter to directly contact the stringed instrument main body through a fixing means, wherein the fixing means is shaped like a horse shoe and has two parallel members, and spacing between the two parallel members is freely adjustable;

pressure contacting the sensor with the vibration plate including the fingerboard, to capture a vibration of the vibration plate in a form of a vibration force, directly or via the vibration transmitter; and

converting via the sensor the vibration force into electric signals for output.

~~wherein a sensor is pressure contacted with the vibration plate including the fingerboard, directly or via a vibration transmitter to capture vibration of said vibration plate in a form of a vibration force, and the sensor converts the vibration force into electric signals for output.~~

2. (Currently amended) A pickup device for sounds from a stringed instrument having in a main body one or more strings, a vibration plate used to radiate vibration of each string as a sound wave, and a fingerboard used to adjust a pitch of each string, **comprising:**

a vibration transmitter pressure contacted with the vibration plate of the stringed instrument main body;

a sensor for receiving a vibration force from the vibration transmitter and converting the vibration force into an electric signal; and

a fixing means for fixing the vibration transmitter to the stringed instrument main body, wherein the fixing means is shaped like a horse shoe and has two parallel members, and spacing between the two parallel members is freely adjustable.

~~wherein the pickup device comprises a vibration transmitter that can be pressure- contacted with the vibration plate of the stringed instrument main body and a sensor that receives a vibration force from the vibration transmitter to convert the vibration force into an electric signal.~~

3. (Original) The pickup device for sounds from a stringed instrument according to claim 2, wherein the sensor is pressure- contacted directly with the vibration plate of the stringed instrument main body.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently amended) The pickup device for sounds from a stringed instrument according to claim 2 ~~and claim 3~~, wherein mounting angles of the vibration transmitter and the sensor **are variable**~~can be varied~~ in accordance with the shape of the vibration plate of the stringed instrument main body.

7. (Currently amended) The pickup device for sounds from a stringed instrument according to claim 2~~claims 2 and 6~~, wherein the vibration transmitter has a depressed portion formed on its surface ~~and~~ having a concave cross section and ~~said pickup mechanism~~ the sensor has a blastomeric projecting portion tightly fitted into the depressed portion so that the angles of the vibration transmitter and ~~pickup mechanism~~ the sensor are freely adjustable~~can be freely adjusted~~.

8. (Currently amended) The pickup device for sounds from a stringed instrument according to claim 2~~claims 2 and 6~~, wherein the vibration transmitter is a magnetic substance or has a structure in which the magnetic substance is buried, and the vibration transmitter is attractively attached to the projecting portion of the ~~sensor~~~~pickup mechanism~~ which is made of the magnetic substance so that the angle of the vibration transmitter is adjustable~~can be adjusted~~.

9. (Currently amended) The pickup device for sounds from a stringed instrument according to claim 2~~claims 2, 4, and 5~~, wherein the fixing ~~means~~~~member~~ further has a sub-adjusting member for pressure-contacting the vibration transmitter and the sensor with the vibration plate of the stringed instrument main body.

10. (Currently amended) The pickup device for sounds from a stringed instrument according to claim 2~~claims 2, 4, 5, and 9~~, wherein the fixing ~~means~~~~member~~ has a rotative moving lever one end of which has said ~~sensor~~~~pickup mechanism~~ and the other end of which is pivotally attached to the fixing ~~means~~~~member~~, and a portion of the rotative moving lever which is pivotally attached to said fixing ~~means~~~~member~~ has a spring member that always pushes the

rotative moving lever toward the vibration plate of the stringed instrument main body.

11. (Currently amended) The pickup device for sounds from a stringed instrument according to claim 2~~claims 2, 6, and 7~~, wherein a putty member such as gypsum, various resins, or synthetic rubber which is relatively soft or is hardened as time elapses is located between the vibration transmitter and the vibration plate of the stringed instrument main body.